

Narragansett Historical Society

May
2016

On the Common
Templeton MA



A May 4th Wedding took place in our garden with Shavawn Bradshaw and Mike Shaw. Congratulations to the newly married couple.

Remember to book the garden for your intimate event, a tea, shower, wedding, or a family birthday.



A bridal shower was held in the document room with 35 in attendance. Congratulations to Arianna Winters and her soon to be Husband Seth Tanguay. May you find happiness and joy.



7 of our members joined in with Susan Spuhler to host our May Day basket making afternoon and May pole ribbon dance. Thanks to the Otter River Sportsman's Club for allowing us to use your beautiful new building and grounds. The kids had a blast making baskets and wrapping the ribbon around the flag pole. Well done!

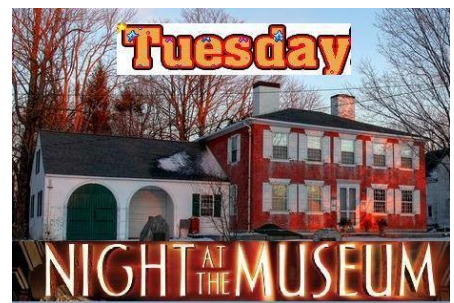
2016 Building hours:

Tuesday nights 6-8 pm

This was a very successful night last year bringing in from 6 to 12 people, both members and visitors, to the building. Some doing research, others working on projects.

Stop by any Tuesday night throughout the year.

Saturdays 1-5



Check Us Out at: www.narraganssetthistoricalsociety.org and on FACEBOOK

Sponsored by

These are our 2016 sponsors. If you would like to sponsor our efforts to save the Historical Society and preserve Templeton's past, contact us at the email on the bottom of the page.

Our sponsors make it possible for us to continue our mission to preserve the artifacts handed down through the generations and to restore the building where they are displayed for the public to enjoy.



<p>Silver Sponsor</p>	<p>Bronze Sponsor</p>	<p>Event Sponsors</p>
	 <p>TANGUAY JEWELERS</p> 	<p>Colonial Co-Operative Bank GFA Federal Credit Union Scotty's Potties Otter River Sportsman's Club</p>

Gift DONATIONS

The Society is proposing anyone interested in donating items to the Society in the future consider having it in Archival Condition. This will better preserve the item for future years

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

YES! I would like to make a donation to the
Narragansett Historical Society
I/We have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Thank You

Narragansett Historical Society and send to
NHS, PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Calendar 2016

Events being planned by the historical society during this year include:

Downton Abbey Saturday, June 25; picnic and entertainment in the garden, Narragansett Historical Society.

Special patriotic program, Saturday, July 9, in conjunction with the 2rd Annual Mac N Cheese Festival hosted by the Friends of the Templeton Elders.

Go fly a kite! August 13 Saturday from noon to 5 * Rain date Sunday the 14th. Music, food, bubbles, kites.

Vintage Car, Small Engine and Tractor Show, Saturday, Sept. 24, co-hosted by the Narragansett Historical Society and the Central Massachusetts Steam, Gas and Machinery Association, on the Templeton Common.

Pumpkin Fest, Saturday, Oct. 29, on the Templeton Common.

Jack Frost Festival and Christmas Tree Lighting, Sunday, Dec. 4, in conjunction with the Town of Templeton, on the Templeton Common.

The building is now open for the season on both Tuesday nights from 6-8 and on Saturday afternoons from 1-5

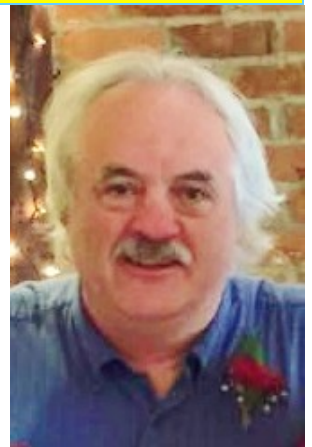
Sign up to help with your favorite event to make each one successful and fun.

Tom Hurd

When you look at the building and the collection you see a great place to visit and an even greater collection of artifacts. What you may miss is in the background and I want to share with you a great treasure. Tom Hurd has been a life member for over 20 years but really didn't get the opportunity to get involved until just a few years ago. Since then Tom has stepped up and filled several positions in our organization becoming the Building and Grounds person and most recently a Director. What you may not realize is that Tom has had his hand in just about every event, project, and clean up along with taking on jobs that needed to get done. Tom has been right there when he is called on to help and it's a pleasure to share his dedication with you this month.

A true "Right hand man" and a serious go getter, Tom is a perfect role model in our group. I seriously cannot list all that he has done, but I can send this "Thank You" for his countless volunteer hours. Visit the building every Tuesday night and Saturday afternoon and Tom will be there with a smile and ready to lend a helping hand.

Written by: Brian Tanguay



NOTICE! Annual Elections 2016

Our 2016 slate of officers have all responded to continue their work in helping the Society move forward. Our one year Directors had one position open and Amy Guthrie has offered to step up and become a director. The slate will be presented to the members at our annual meeting on May 22nd Wednesday night at 7 pm.

NARRAGANSETT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SLATE OF OFFICERS UP FOR ELECTION
ELECTION DATE
MAY 22, 2016

PRESIDENT: Brian Tanguay
VICE PRESIDENT: OPEN
TREASURER: Debbie Cassie
SECRETARY: Christine Stone

CURATOR: Brian Tanguay

DIRECTOR 3 YEARS: Amy Guthrie
Dennis Rich
Tom Jeleniewski

DIRECTOR 2 YEARS: Tom Hurd
Jessie Duguay
Ann Lyons

DIRECTOR 1 YEAR: Karen Rich
Tom Hill
Bill Buckler

TRUSTEES: Tom Jeleniewski
John Brooks
David Huhtala
Brian Tanguay

HISTORIAN: Harry Aldrich
BUILDING and GROUNDS: Tom Hurd

Ice saw donation

Mike Langlois visited the building Tuesday night May 17th to offer this ice saw as a donation. It was used at the Ferncol School where workers would go out and harvest ice. This tool was used to score the ice blocks first, then a horse drawn saw was placed in the marked lines to cut through. Mike rescued the tool from being trashed. A very rare item which came with wooden cover to protect the teeth.



Saturday at the Building

Jerry Grimes has volunteered to host the building and while he's there, he offered to be our "resident Carver" carving wooden Christmas ornaments. These ornaments will also be available for sale to help raise money for the Historical Society.



Harry Aldrich & Tom Hurd have been regulars at the building making sure it is open to the public and sharing their knowledge with visitors.

Your help is needed to keep the doors open, stop by and hang out for the afternoon, the more you visit the more you will learn about the great collection and the beautiful building.

Downton Abbey

Before you know it, the garden will be filled with visitors from far and wide enjoying the special treats whipped up by the team working on the Downton Abbey garden picnic. Coming June 25th Saturday afternoon.

You are welcome to come as you are, or dress the part. Search through vintage clothing stores for that perfect hat, umbrella, dress, or suit so you don't miss out on the fun. The event was a huge success last year with those in attendance anticipating and planning for this year's event. There may be vintage cars on the lawn for a photo op and a game or two can be played in the garden.

To get involved you can contact Mary Grimes through our facebook page or our email account.



DOWNTON ABBEY REVISITED
DOMINION VBBEX BEAUSILED

Narragansett Historical Society

1 Boynton St., Templeton, on the Common

Saturday, June 25, 2-4:30 p.m.

(Rain Date: Sunday, June 26)

Jazz / Beverages / Savories / Period Dress Optional

Suggested Donation: Adults, \$10; Children, \$5



“A moment in time”

by: **Harry Aldrich Jr. *Historian***

THE NEED FOR WATER

This story goes way back just before the town installed a public water system in the late forty's. The area was in the middle of a serious drought and many of the people in town didn't have water. Their wells were drying up and there was no relief in sight.

Our well was one of the wells that had gone dry and my dad, being a hard nose Yankee set out to dig himself a new well. Dad was a dowser but he didn't let it be known very much. Well, dad cut himself a dowsing rod and started walking around the pasture looking for water. After a while he located what he felt was where he should dig his well and marked the spot. Next, he started digging in the spot that he had marked out. Whenever dad had any free time he would be out there digging. I can remember my mother telling him that the neighbors were laughing at him. Even she doubted that he would find water but he kept digging finally he had dug down about six feet and he hit ledge. Next he got an old stone chisel that he had for breaking stones when doing his masonry work and started trying to break up the ledge. After being persistent pounding on that ledge, he started seeing water. Dad continued breaking into that ledge and managed to go another two feet. By now he had a pretty good stream of water flowing in and it wasn't long before the well was full. I was too young to realize but it must have been a good feeling to see all the neighbors coming over and filling their pails up

The following year the town voted to start a municipal water department and installing water mains. Later, dad bricked up the sides of the well continued to use it to water the cows with. The well never went dry and is still there today but it has not been used for years now and is filled with silt but I am sure if it was dug out and flushed it would be full.

Dowsing:

If you are interested in dowsing we have trained experts that will teach you the skill. It's easy and almost everyone that tries it is successful. Contact us at the building or via email if you want to learn more.



Unknown dowser

President's Page

by: **Brian P. Tanguay**



With this being the end of our fiscal year and the month we hold elections I figured I would talk about the state of the Society. The strategic plan I envisioned over two years ago has been working very well. Last year on this month our checking account had grown to \$5,750.00 and this month it has been hovering around \$11,000.00.

Keep in mind we are getting more projects done than ever before and most of them are done as a 100% donation which allows us to grow our account. We did make a few purchases some for paint and supplies and others for our new blinds, the storage of our grand curtain and the advertising curtain, and a few items in the kitchen that are needed throughout the year.

I'm particularly impressed with the growth of our membership, the participation of our sponsors, and the many donations from the community like catered foods, rent free halls, and helping hands. I hear the words "It takes a village" used in so many ways but what I see accomplished over the past year I have to say we have one fantastic village here in Templeton.

I'm excited to welcome our Board of Governors back for another term and to thank our newest "soon to be elected" director Amy Guthrie into our organization. Amy has been very helpful in several events over the past few years and she comes with an army of dedicated children willing to help and eager to learn what's inside the building. To have such enthusiasm in our youth is a gift you must embrace since these kids could become our next leaders not only in our group, but in our community as well.

A thank you goes out to our Board for approving the Narragansett Historical Society fund to be set up with the Community Foundation of North Central Mass for the sum of \$10,000.00. It's a great start to our financial growth and a needed partnership with a like minded group who will offer us the opportunity to broaden our reach throughout Central Massachusetts. Opportunities to receive grants as well as endowments from those looking to give back.

As President, my only agenda is for the good of the Society. I constantly ask myself; Will each decision make our membership proud? Will the community want to get involved? Can we raise funds while having fun? And am I making it easier for the next generation to continue growing without fear of losing this great collection.

Our friendship with the Templeton Senior Center, Templeton TV, the Board of Selectmen, the Library, the Churches, the clubs, Newspapers, Banks, and the many businesses in town has grown in the best way possible, communication to all is the best it's been in years and there are so many great comments coming our way from neighbors and friends. I am so happy to be a part of the success we are having and I'm looking forward to the expansion of our membership in the coming years. We are up to 371 members and if we all just sign up one new member this month we will be one step closer to our goal. My vision is to have 1,000 new members in the next few years. Each member will know they did their part by joining, a small sacrifice of \$100.00 lifetime membership will guarantee the Museum will never close. Our fundraising efforts will be used for projects, preservation, and displays. The membership money will be used to create a fund large enough to pay our monthly bills through dividends and interest.

To our new members, take some time out of your busy schedule to visit your building and attend an event, if you enjoyed your stay, consider volunteering for the next one, you'll be glad you did.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome along with stories for this newsletter or your membership profile.

Submit yours today.



Quiz. Who is this? What did she do to save Templeton's history? Where did she live?

Answer: Elizabeth Wellington Lord, Author of "The Story of Templeton" and a lifetime member of the Historical Society. For more info stop by the building any Saturday or Tuesday night.

OFFICERS:
President: Brian Tanguay
Vice Pres. Howard Sands
Secretary Christine Stone
Treasurer Debbie Caisse
Curator: Brian Tanguay
Historian: Harry Aldrich

DIRECTORS:

3 year	2 year	1 year
Tom Hurd	Karen Rich	Janet Haley
Jessie Duguay	Tom Hill	Tom Jeleniewski
Ann Lyons	William Buckler	Dennis Rich

TRUSTEES:
 Tom Jeleniewski
 David Huhtala
 Brian Tanguay
 John Brooks



Contact info:
 Main email: narragansethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com
 Newsletter Editor: Brian Tanguay

Find us on Facebook—Search for **Narragansett Historical**. It's filled with the History of Templeton, Baldwinville, Otter River and East Templeton. Pictures, stories, and faces of the people who lived here years ago. Some new images will be shared also of around town. Take a look, add a comment, or ask us a question. Friends have been sending images to us and posting online. We fill out the history to go with the photograph and post it for your enjoyment.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME any time.



Sign up soon **1,210 friends and counting!**

Meeting Notice: 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM unless otherwise advertised.

May 25th Annual meeting with Elections Document room 7pm

June 22nd Document Room with the Central Mass Genealogy Club 7pm

July 27th Document room 7pm Mt. Grace representative

